

What is claimed is:

1. A tire building machine, comprising:

a carcass support on which a carcass is rotatably mounted; and

5 a tread strip feed device via which a tread strip is fed onto the carcass, the tread strip feed device including a linear path support assembly on which a tread strip can be supported in a substantially linear disposition, the path support assembly extending from an end of the tread strip feed device at which a cutting device may perform a cutting operation to another end more closely adjacent the carcass, the tread strip feed device being raisable to a feed position at which the tread strip extends tangentially relative to the carcass for feeding the tread strip thereonto in a tire building process.

10 2. A tire building machine according to claim 1, and further comprising a linkage disposed under the path support assembly of the tread strip feed device and, in particular, in a region underneath the cutting device, the linkage being operable to effect a swing movement of the tread strip feed device.

15 3. A tire building machine according to claim 1, wherein the path support assembly is mounted for swing movement and is moveable toward and away from the carcass.

20 4. A tire building machine according to claim 1, and further

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